

Presidential Communications Operations Office  
Presidential News Desk

**SPEECH OF  
PRESIDENT RODRIGO ROA DUTERTE  
DURING THE SWITCH ON CELEBRATION OF  
SAN BUENAVENTURA POWER LTD CO (SBPL)  
500-MW SUPERCRITICAL COAL-FIRED POWER PLANT**  
[Delivered at Grand Hyatt Manila, BGC, Taguig | 16 October 2019]

Kindly sit down. Salamat po.

Excellencies of the diplomatic corps; Energy Secretary Alfonso Cusi; Senator Bong Go; officials and employees of the Meralco, led by Chairman Manuel Pangilinan; Meralco PowerGen President and CEO Mr. Rogelio Singson; Electricity Generating [Public] Company of Thailand Senior Vice President Danuja Simasathien; other distinguished guests; ladies and gentlemen.

Let me express my congratulations to the San Buenaventura Power Company for their taking this crucial step in our collective journey towards energy security.

I am truly pleased that this participation has led to the construction of this environment-friendly power generation facility which will not only help in the development of our communities in Mauban, Quezon, but more importantly, augment the current level [of] power supply in Luzon.

I am pleased that the 500 megawatts of power that this power plant will supply to the Luzon grid will be the product of the state-of-the-art "supercritical technology" that will ensure increased efficiency while minimizing toxic emissions that can harm the environment.

Let the success of this facility serve as a testament to the vast potential of the private sector to contribute to the [government's efforts] in addressing deficiencies in energy generation and distribution across the country.

As we look forward to the future of power generation in the Philippines with much optimism, let me assure our partners in the private sector that this administration remains committed in harnessing the potential of sustainable [and] renewable energy in driving the growth of our economy.

Let me therefore take this opportunity to encourage everyone, especially the people behind San Buenaventura Power, to look especially behind the aspect of power generation. And always keep in mind that beyond profits, your primary objective is to provide reliable and affordable electricity to our people.

I am thus directing our relevant government agencies, especially the [DENR] and the DOE, to remain vigilant in monitoring the compliance of power generation companies with existing laws and regulations.

To our friends in the private sector, I ask you to follow the lead of San Buenaventura Power by investing in the generation of clean energy.

With substantial reforms that this administration has instituted in the past three years, I can assure you that you'll be able to pursue more effective and efficient business strategies as long as you give utmost importance for the protection of our environment and the welfare of your host communities.

Again, let me thank you for increasing the capacity of our energy sector to meet the growing electricity demand in Luzon. With your help, I am confident that we can chart a better future for the power industry as we march towards a more sustainable and progressive future.

Maraming salamat po. [applause]

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